

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A portable extender adapted for use by a visiting nurse to access patient data stored in one or more implantable medical devices (IMDs), the extender comprising:

means for positively identifying the visiting nurse;

means for establishing a wireless data communication with the one or more IMDs in the patient; and

means for downloading patient data from the one or more IMDs;

a touch screen coupled to said means for identifying, said means for establishing and said means for downloading providing a user input to activate same being activatable by a digital contact means with a screen incorporated in the extender thereof; and

computer implemented software for planning and organizing a daily schedule of patient visits for the visiting nurse among a plurality of patients.

2. (Original) The extender of claim 1 wherein said wireless data communication means includes a telemetry system.

3. (Currently Amended) The extender of claim 1 wherein said means for identifying ~~includes one of and a combination~~ is selected from a group consisting of a video cam, a voice recognition system, a digital signature recognition system, a biological/physiological sensor ~~to positively identify the visiting nurse and allow access to IMD data via the portable extender.~~

4. (Currently Amended) The extender of claim 3 wherein said video cam is implemented to capture ~~anatomical~~ images of the patient and/or the nurse.
5. (Currently Amended) The extender of claim 4 wherein said ~~anatomical~~ images are transferred to a remote location.
6. (Currently Amended) The extender of claim 5 wherein said ~~anatomical~~ image transferred to said remote location is implemented to identify the nurse before allowing access to IMD data.
7. (Original) The portable extender of claim 1, further including a GPS system imbedded to enable the nurse to plot a most efficient sequence of visits to patients scheduled at a given time.
8. (Currently Amended) The portable extender of claim 1 wherein said means for ~~positively~~ identifying includes means for comparing physical data including selected from a group consisting of fingerprint, facial, voice and iris data against ~~a biometrics~~ data stored in the portable extender.
9. (Original) The portable extender of claim 1 wherein data is transferred via a wireless communication link including one of a cellular and satellite system.
10. (Currently Amended) A portable extender adapted for use by a visiting nurse to manage home-based care among a plurality of one or more patients, each patient having an IMD with one or more IMDs wherein the extender includes computer-implemented software to organize, plan and manage the visiting nurse's schedule and patient evaluation information, the portable extender and computer-implemented software in combination, comprising:
means for downloading patient data ~~a daily schedule data for the nurse~~
including patient location;

means for downloading ~~patient~~ data from the IMDs;
means for entering non-IMD medical data; and
means for transferring the patient and medical evaluation data to a remote location;
means for storing, compiling and managing
~~said mean for downloading a schedule, said means for downloading patient location, said means for entering and said means for transferring being implemented in the portable extender and the software having logic means to store, compile and manage aid location data, said patient data, said IMD data, and~~ said non-IMD data ~~and said patient evaluation data;~~
and
computer implemented software for planning and organizing a daily schedule of patient visits for the visiting nurse among a plurality of patients.

11. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein said means for downloading a daily schedule data includes one of IvDA, RF cellular and satellite link between the portable extender and a remote clinic/physician station.
12. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein said means for downloading patient location includes an imbedded GPS system including software to calculate the most efficient sequence of patient visits scheduled for the nurse.
13. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein said means for entering non-IMD medical data includes a data base where additional physiological data about the patient is entered and updated during the nurse's visit.

14. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein the software includes Medicare form generation data base, patient medication and pharmacist contact data base and physician expert contact/consulting data base.